

Response to Office Action of 11/26/2003
Appl. Ser. No. 09/666,867

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Claims 6-9 remain pending.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Berger et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,778,717) ("the '717 patent"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Solely to advance prosecution of the application, however, claims 1-4 have been canceled. Accordingly, this rejection has been rendered moot.

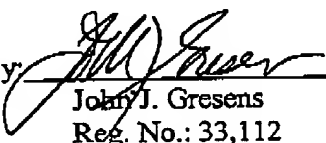
Claims 6-9 were found to be in condition for allowance in the previous application. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter. As claims 6-9 are the only claims that remain pending, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance.



Date: 6/21/04

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

By: 
John J. Gresens
Reg. No.: 33,112
JJG/TSW